	Type	L #	Hits	Search Text	DBs	Time Stamp
1	BRS	L1	36650	(manage or managed or managing or management or track or tracked or tracking or monitor or monitored or monitoring) near5 (ship or shipping or shipment or package or parcel or box or mail or letter or mail or mailpiece)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/01/09 18:11
2	BRS	L2	4754	1 near5 (communicate or communicated or communicating or communication or line or link or channel or lan or wan or internet or web or www or net or network)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/01/09 18:11
3	BRS	L3	104698	(cost or costing or price or pricing or fee or feeing or rate or rating or bill or billing or charge or charging or amount or value) near5 (ship or shipping or shipment or package or parcel or box or mail or letter or mail or mailpiece)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/01/09 18:11
4	BRS	L4	4841	3 near5 (communicate or communicated or communicating or communication or line or link or channel or lan or wan or internet or web or www or net or network)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/01/09 18:12
5	BRS	L5	258	2 and 4	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/01/09 18:12

	Type	L #	Hits	Search Text	DBs	Time Stamp
6	BRS	L6	2987	3 near10 3	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/01/09 18:13
7	BRS	L7	24525	3 near5 (low or lowest or lower or least or compare or comparison or comparing or minimum or min or small or smallest or smaller or shop or shipping or shopped)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/01/09 18:13
8	BRS	L8	102	5 and (6 or 7) *Scanned Ti,Ab,Kwic all*	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/01/09 18:13
9	BRS	L11	865	7 near5 (display or displayed or displaying or indicate or indicated or indicating or indication or graph or graphed or graphing or graphical or graphically or chart or charted or charting or spreadsheet or report or reporting or reported or summary or summarize or summarized or summarizing or summarization)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/01/09 18:32
10	BRS	L12	151	1 and 11 *Scanned Ti,Ab,Kwic all*	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/01/09 18:35

#	Document ID	Issue Date	Inventor	Current OR	Current XRef	Pages
1	JP 0527635 3 A	19931022				4
2	US 6470327 B1	20021022	Carroll; Terri A. et al.	705/401	705/410; 709/220; 709/221; 709/222; 713/1; 713/100; 713/2	11
3	US 6466948 B1	20021015	Levitsky; Paul A. et al.	707/104.1	707/4	23
4	US 2003097306 A1	20030522	Boucher, Glen A. et al.	705/26		13
5	US 2002178074 A1	20021128	Bloom, Gregg	705/26		109
6	US 2002116318 A1	20020822	Thomas, Anthony Robert et al.	705/37	.	23
7	US 2002095308 A1	20020718	Pragelas, John et al.	705/1		15
8	US 2002087492 A1	20020704	Carroll, Terri A. et al.	705/404	705/30	8
9	US 2002083018 A1	20020627	Carroll, Terri A. et al.	705/401		10
10	US 2002069096 A1	20020606	Lindoerfer, Paul et al.	705/7		89
11	US 2002065764 A1	20020530	Brodersen, Andrew N. JR. et al.	705/37		20
12	US 2002032612 A1	20020314	Williams, Daniel F. et al.	705/26	705/27	153

L8 results

	Document ID	Issue Date	Inventor	Current OR	Current XRef	Pages
13	US 20020032573 A1	20020314	Williams, Daniel F. et al.	705/1		204
14	US 20020022983 A1	20020221	Barton, Timothy A.	705/7		30
15	US 20020016726 A1	20020207	Ross, Kenneth J.	705/7		26
16	US 20010044785 A1	20011122	Stolfo, Salvatore J. et al.	705/74		12
17	US 20010034608 A1	20011025	Gendreau, Marc	705/1	705/410	12

L8 results

	Document ID	Issue Date	Inventor	Current OR	Current XRef	Pages
1	US 5117364 A	19920526	Barns-Slavin; Ileana D. et al.	705/402	177/25.15; 705/407	12
2	US 6233568 B1	20010515	Kara; Salim G.	705/410	705/401	44
3	US 20020032612 A1	20020314	Williams, Daniel F. et al.	705/26	705/27	153
4	US 20020032573 A1	20020314	Williams, Daniel F. et al.	705/1		204

L12 results

US-PAT-NO: 5117364
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5117364 A
TITLE: Carrier management method and system having auto-rate shopping
DATE-ISSUED: May 26, 1992
INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
Barns-Slavin; Ileana D.	Wilton	CT	06897
Dukes; Alonzo T.	Bridgeport	CT	06606
Njo; Angela	Bridgeport	CT	06606
Taylor; David J.	Norwalk	CT	06855

US-CL-CURRENT: 705/402, 177/25.15 , 705/407

ABSTRACT: A carrier management system includes a scale for weighing parcels to be shipped, a computer connected to receive data from the scale related to the weight of a parcel thereon, and first input keys enabling the input of information. The computer has a data base for storing shipping charge data for a plurality of carriers and/or shipping classes, based upon the weight of a parcel of the scale. The computer is responsive to the operation of the first keys for determining shipping charges for predetermined carriers and/or shipping classes represented by data in the data base. The input includes auto-rate selection key, and the computer is responsive to operation of the auto-rate selection key for determining shipping charges of the least costly carrier and/or shipping class of a predetermined subgroup of carriers and/or shipping classes represented by data in the data base. In one operating mode, the computer may determined the next least costly shipping charges. The computer is responsive to the operation of determined keys of the input means for controlling the carriers and/or shipping classes within the subgroup, as well as for controlling the operating mode thereof.
6 Claims,   7 Drawing figures
Exemplary Claim Number: 1
Number of Drawing Sheets: 6

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Abstract Text - ABTX (1): A carrier management system includes a scale for weighing parcels to be shipped, a computer connected to receive data from the scale related to the weight of a parcel thereon, and first input keys enabling the input of information. The computer has a data base for storing shipping charge data for a plurality of carriers and/or shipping classes, based upon the weight of a parcel of the scale. The computer is responsive to the operation of the first keys for determining shipping charges for predetermined carriers and/or shipping classes represented by data in the data base. The input includes auto-rate selection key, and the computer is responsive to operation of the auto-rate selection key for determining shipping charges of the least costly carrier and/or shipping class of a predetermined subgroup of carriers and/or shipping classes represented by data in the data base. In one operating mode, the computer may determined the next least costly shipping charges. The computer is responsive to the operation of determined keys of the input means for controlling the carriers and/or

shipping classes within the subgroup, as well as for controlling the operating mode thereof.

Brief Summary Text - BSTX (4): In the shipping of parcels, it is frequently desirable to make provision for shipping by more than one carrier. In current shipping practice, provision must be made for the shipping of parcels by two major carriers, such as the United States Postal System (USPS) and the United Parcel Service (UPS), a private carrier, as well as any of a large number of smaller private carriers. In prior tracking or recording systems, various data concerning parcels or groups of parcels to be shipped were entered by an operator, so that the information could be stored in the records of a memory. The "transactions" recorded included information relating to the shipment, such as, for example, the identification of the carrier, the number of packages in the shipment, the weight, address data, charges, date and time, invoice number, etc. Factors such as weight were entered either manually or automatically by a scale, while other factors such as zip code were generally entered by an operator by way of a keyboard. Such systems contemplated the provision in the programs of routines that determined shipping costs on the basis of the information that was input.

Brief Summary Text - BSTX (7): The invention is directed to the provision of means for simplifying the operation of carrier management systems, i.e., systems for processing the shipment of parcels or the like via one or more carriers.

Brief Summary Text - BSTX (8): In accordance with the invention, a carrier management system includes a scale for weighing parcels to be shipped, a computer connected to receive data from the scale related to the weight of a parcel thereon, and input means enabling an operator to input information to the computer. The input means includes a plurality of keys including separate first input selection keys. The computer has a data base for storing shipping charge data for a plurality of carriers and/or shipping classes, based upon the weight of a parcel of the scale. The computer comprises means responsive to the operation of the first keys for determining shipping charges for predetermined carriers and/or shipping classes represented by data in the data base. In accordance with the invention, the input means comprises an auto-rate selection key, and the computer comprises means responsive to operation of the auto-rate selection key for determining shipping charges of the least costly carrier and/or shipping class of a predetermined subgroup of carriers and/or shipping classes represented by data in the data base.

Brief Summary Text - BSTX (10): In a further feature of the invention, the carrier management system further comprises a display connected to the computer, and the computer comprises means responsive to operation of the auto-rate selection key for displaying the weight of a parcel on the scale, and the shipping charges for the parcel for the least costly carrier and/or shipping class, on the display.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (6): Referring now to FIG. 3, therein is illustrated the keyboard 14 of a preferred carrier management shipping system in accordance with the invention. The keyboard includes three sets 100, 200, 300 of keys. Each of the keys

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has a label printed thereon corresponding to the primary function of the key. Secondary and tertiary functions are printed above and below the keys showing additional functions that depression of the associated the keys may enable.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (20): If desired, the user may now depress one or more of the special charge keys in the section 201 of the keyboard. For example, if the parcel is oversize, the first key in the first row of this section is depressed, following which the display shows the additional charges for an oversize parcel. After a predetermined time, the display will show the total charges for shipping the parcel including the oversize parcel charges. The other special charge keys function in a similar manner to add charges for other special services.

Claims Text - CLTX (1): 1. In a carrier management system including a scale for weighing parcels to be shipped, a computer connected to receive data from said scale related to the weight of a parcel thereon, and input means enabling an operator to input information to said computer, said input means including a plurality of keys including separate first input selection keys, the computer having a data base for storing shipping charge data for a plurality of shipping classes, based upon the weight of a parcel of said scale, said computer comprising means responsive to the operation of said first keys for determining shipping charges for predetermined shipping classes represented by data in said data base, the improvement wherein said input means further comprises an auto-rate selection key, and said computer comprises means responsive to operation of said auto-rate selection key for determining shipping charges of the least costly shipping class of a predetermined subgroup of shipping classes represented by data in said data base, and wherein said system further comprises means responsive to the depression of a determined key on said input means for determining the shipping charges for the next least costly shipping class of said subgroup.

Claims Text - CLTX (2): 2. The carrier management system of claim 1 further comprising a display connected to said computer, said computer comprising means responsive to operation of said auto-rate selection key for displaying the weight of a parcel on said scale, and the shipping charges for said parcel for said least costly shipping class, on said display.

US-PAT-NO: 6233568
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6233568 B1
TITLE: System and method for automatically providing shipping/transportation fees
DATE-ISSUED: May 15, 2001
INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Kara; Salim G.	Markham	N/A	N/A	CA

US-CL-CURRENT: 705/410, 705/401

ABSTRACT: There is disclosed a system and method for dispensing postage or other authorization information electronically by using a portable processor containing a maximum amount of preauthorized postage which can be applied to any piece of mail or other item. A plurality of shipping service providers may utilize the portable processor to store and dispense credit value for authorization of various shipping services. Accordingly, a user is presented with information regarding various shipping service providers fees and/or services associated with particular shipping/delivery parameters desired by the user in order to make an informed choice as to a most preferable method of shipment.
47 Claims,   38 Drawing figures
Exemplary Claim Number: 1
Number of Drawing Sheets: 23

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Detailed Description Text - DETX (48): The preferred embodiment of the credit refill operation of the present invention has been described with reference to a single shipping service provider accepting payment for and bestowing a corresponding amount of postage credit. This preferred embodiment allows for a single trusted shipping service provider, such as the United States Postal Service, which has already established infrastructure deployed to service the populace in general to manage the payment by users for shipping services of a number of shipping service providers. Accordingly, at time of refill, this trusted shipping service provider may analyze transaction information stored on a storage device 18 to determine amounts of the debited postage credit associated with particular shipping service providers for example, the transaction information may include a record incremented in an amount corresponding to a particular one of the shipping service providers conducting a transaction before a printer is enabled to print information authorizing the particular one of the shipping service providers to conduct a transaction. Thereafter, this trusted shipping service provider may forward monies, previously received in payment of a credit refill transaction, to the appropriate shipping service providers in payment of their services.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (78): In order to present the user with information from which to make an informed choice as to a particular shipping service provider by which to ship the piece of mail or other item, the E-STAMP program may calculate the fees associated with a plurality of the available shipping service providers.

Accordingly, the user may select shipping service providers of interest (not shown) in order to allow the E-STAMP program to determine the fees for only those shipping service providers. Thereafter, the E-STAMP program may calculate and display fees associated with shipping the item via the selected shipping service providers according to the desired shipping and/or delivery parameters, i.e., class, urgency, etc. Where a selected shipping service provider does not provide a desired shipping and/or delivery parameter, the E-STAMP program may indicate such and provide the fees for a service offered by that particular shipping service provider most near that desired by the user.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (79): However, in the preferred embodiment, the E-STAMP program automatically calculates the fees for each shipping service provider offering service commensurate with the desired shipping and/or delivery parameters. Additionally, the E-STAMP program may indicate other ones of the shipping service providers which do not provide a desired shipping and/or delivery parameter and provide the fees for a service offered by that particular shipping service provider most near that desired by the user, as well as indicate how their service differs from that desired.